

TRIBUTE TO OLYMPIC WRESTLER
DAVID TAYLOR

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize David Taylor for his outstanding wrestling performance at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

At the age of 8, David wrote down three goals: Win four high school state titles, win four college national championships, and win Olympic gold. Even at this young age, he had his mind set on objectives that would take countless hours of practice and dedication to accomplish.

David wasted no time on his mission, amassing an impressive 180-2 high school record, including four state championships, and graduated with a 4.0 grade point average from my alma mater, Graham High School in St. Paris, Ohio. He would then go on to become one of the most decorated wrestlers in Penn State University's history: Four Big Ten championships, a four-time finalist and two-time NCAA National Champion, and twice the winner of the Dan Hodge Trophy, given to the undisputed best college wrestler in the nation.

He then fixed his eyes on his final objective: Winning Olympic gold. With 17 seconds remaining in the gold medal match in Tokyo, Taylor scored a two-point takedown to give him his 52nd straight victory in international matches. David said afterward: "You've got to want it. You've got to want to be here."

David married the love of his life, Kendra, five years ago. Last month, on September 16, they welcomed baby Ivy into the world. David's parents, Dave and Kathy, currently reside in Chattanooga.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I am honored to celebrate David's accomplishments, his dedication to the sport of wrestling, his integrity and work ethic, and his outstanding contributions to the Olympic tradition. We wish him all the best in the future.

RECOGNIZING MISS KAYLYNN
GONZALES

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Miss Kaylynn Gonzales for her beautification of Valley Animal Haven in Lemoore, California.

Miss Gonzales is a Girl Scout Cadette from Hanford, California. This year, she led a team in beautifying Valley Animal Haven, a local pet adoption center. For this project, Miss Gonzales taught herself to paint and draw. Together, her team created and painted wooden cartoon animals for the facility's meet and greet pens. She also restored aging tables, chairs, and benches in the visitor's areas and installed new bark mulch in the meet and greet area. Miss Gonzales raised money to fund this project by selling cookies and collecting donations.

Miss Gonzales selected this project because she is committed to raising awareness for re-

sponsible pet ownership and the importance of adopting from local shelters. In beautifying Valley Animal Haven, Miss Gonzales hopes to encourage more adoptions from the shelter. Her work is greatly appreciated by the Valley Animal Haven community and those who share her honorable mission.

In recognition of her efforts, Miss Gonzales was awarded the Girl Scout Silver Award by the Girl Scouts of the USA, Central California South Council, Troop 3049. This is the highest honor a Girl Scout can receive at the Cadette level.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Miss Kaylynn Gonzales on this important achievement and recognizing her service to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF OFFICER ROBIN W. BLOSS

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I am privileged and humbled to recognize Officer Robin W. Bloss upon the occasion of his retirement from the Penbrook Borough Police Force after more than thirty years of service.

Officer Bloss began his journey as a Paxtang Borough Police Officer upon completion of Officer Training at the PA State Police Training Center in Hershey. Despite his recent introduction to the Force, he managed to remain employed full-time as a maintenance electrician with the Ames Companies Inc., while working 20-hour weeks with the Department.

Officer Bloss later transitioned to the Penbrook Borough Police Department, serving as a Bike Patrol Officer and the Borough Business Contact for maintaining emergency notification information. Throughout his many years with the Department, he received a litany of awards for his service, to include: Medal of Valor; Certificate of Merit; and multiple Lifesaving Awards.

In the Fall of 2003, Officer Bloss received the Medal of Valor when he and Officer Swank saved an infant's life during a violent domestic dispute on Boas Street. His Certificate of Merit was earned as he was on duty when shots were fired at Capitol Police. He earned his three Lifesaving Awards for CPR performed throughout his decades of service.

Officer Bloss loved serving the community and was proud to wear the uniform, which he did with dignity and integrity. As proud as he was of his work in law enforcement, his three sons were his priority and focus of his greatest pride. He was blessed to serve simultaneously with two of his sons—one as Swatara Township K9 Police Officer, and one as a Dauphin County Dispatcher.

Throughout his work as a patrol and bike patrol officer, he served with distinction, working the job and community events that frequently took him away from his family and myriad holidays and special events. Despite his retirement, however, Officer Bloss will remain in service to citizens of the Borough of Paxtang as its EMA Coordinator.

I commend Officer Robin Bloss upon the auspicious occasion of his hard-earned retire-

ment and lifelong commitment. For his tireless, selfless, and loyal service to our community, Commonwealth, and Nation, I wish him Godspeed on his next adventures.

RECOGNIZING PATRICK LAVIN ON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS
(IBEW) LOCAL NO. 47

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize Mr. Patrick Lavin, who has retired after serving seven terms as Business Manager and Financial Secretary of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local No. 47 in Diamond Bar, California. I thank Pat for his years of friendship and counsel and congratulate him on his retirement following his 55-year career at IBEW, during which he was one of the most effective and longest-serving members of the IBEW International Executive Council (IEC), among many other roles.

A journeyman lineman by trade, Pat joined IBEW Local 9 outside Chicago as a summer helper before his sophomore year in high school and came on the job full time in 1968. In 1969, Pat interrupted his IBEW career and volunteered to serve his country in the U.S. Marine Corps during the height of the Vietnam War.

Over his lengthy career, Pat was a lineman for four different utilities. He worked for Southern California Edison (SCE) as a lineman, service crew foreman, and heavy crew foreman in Redondo Beach, Huntington Beach, and Santa Ana.

Pat has said that he saw many different changes in the electrical industry over the course of his career, and that the need for the services of electrical workers has grown immensely over the past twenty years. In his decades on the job, Pat also weathered numerous challenges including recessions and periods of anti-union rhetoric. In his own words: "As a groundman, an apprentice and a lineman, I have helped keep the lights on since 1969."

In addition to seven terms as Business Manager and Financial Secretary of IBEW Local No. 47, Pat served five terms as the IBEW 7th District International Executive Council member. He was chosen as Secretary of the Council by the IEC in June 2003. During his many years in the field, Pat has worked for numerous IBEW signatory contractors and four utilities out of various local unions around the United States. When Pat took over Local 47 in 1999 it was a 4,500-member utility. Today, it serves 14,000 members in nearly 200 classifications over a nearly 80,000 square mile jurisdiction from the Pacific to Arizona and from Mexico to just south of Lake Tahoe.

Pat was also chairman & treasurer of the Coalition of California Utility Employees (CCUE), a board member of California Unions for Reliable Energy (CURE), an executive board member of the California State Association of Electrical Workers (CSAEW), and a member of the board of directors of California